

## REMARKS

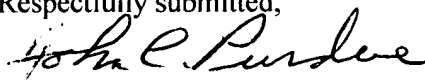
This communication is in response to an Official action dated July 31, 2003. A request for a three month extension of time for response is being filed herewith.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the preserving protective layer on top of the silane coupling agent is a polymethyl methacrylate, a Bis GMA, an epoxy resin or a phenolic resin. Since these are the materials recited in original claims 2-5, which were held to be allowable if rewritten in independent form, amended claim 1 is believed to be allowable. Similarly, the amendments to claim 1 are believed to make claims 2-6 allowable.

The Official action objected to claims 7-12 as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim can not depend on another multiple dependent claim, but did not further treat these claims on the merits. The foregoing amendments cancel claims 8 and 9, and amend claims 7 and 10-12 to eliminate multiple dependency. Accordingly, the objection is believed to have been avoided, and an action on the merits of claims 7 and 10-12 is thought to be in order. Since these claims are all dependent upon claim 1 (either directly or remotely), and since claim 1, as is discussed above, is believed to be allowable, it is believed that claims 7 and 10-12 should be allowed.

Accordingly, it is believed that the instant application is in condition for allowance. Favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



John C. Purdue  
Registration No. 16,555

Purdue Law Offices  
2735 N. Holland-Sylvania Road, Ste. B-2  
Toledo, OH 43615-1844  
Voice (419) 531-0599

Fax (419) 531-0362